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Subject: Military Developments: Majdan Area/Biedrusko/Rakowice

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1. "The following information is dated early summer 1953.

Majdan Area

2. "A large depot of artillery equipment and munitions is located near a small village called Deba, in the vicinity of Majdan. The depot consists of underground bunkers linked by corridors. It is sheltered by thick woods which are part of the Sandomierska Forest. A special railway track, also completely hidden in the woods, runs from the depot to the small railway station of Padew. The place is surrounded with barbed wire and carefully guarded by a unit of soldiers stationed in the village of Deba. These soldiers also operate the railway spur.
3. "At Majdan are military training grounds which were used for artillery exercises prior to World War II.

Biedrusko

4. "An important training base for artillery, armoured car and air force units has been established at Biedrusko on the Warta River. This base existed prior to World War II but has now been enlarged. The small town of Biedrusko is entirely controlled by military authorities. A large part of the civilian population has been evacuated. Biedrusko is joined by a bridge with a suburb on the opposite bank of the Warta. Military sentries are always posted on this bridge to prevent traffic across the river. The base is equipped with the most modern types of armament. Army instructors from military units all over Poland are trained there.

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5. "Two airfields are in operation at Biedrusko: one for training fighter pilots; the second for bombers.

Rakowice

6. "A strong base for air force fighters and bombers has been established near Cracow as an extension of the old civilian airport of Rakowice. The new airfields, the construction of which was begun by the Germans, stretch along the highways Cracow - Kocmyrzow and Cracow - Miechow. Development works still continue. According to the population of Cracow, this base will not belong to the Polish Air Force but to the Soviets. At present it accomodates a much smaller number of planes than its size would warrant. It is alleged that in event of a war, the Soviet Air Force would occupy the airfields immediately."

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